

Appl No.: 10/623,227  
Reply to Office Actions of 10/5/06 & 1/29/07

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UCF-273DIV

FEB 05 2007

Amendment to the Specification

Replace the title of the invention with the following rewritten title:

**-- FILAMENTOUS CARBON PARTICLES WITH OCTOPUS-LIKE STRUCTURE FOR CLEANING OIL SPILLS AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION --**

Separate the paragraph on page 19, lines 4-22, into two paragraphs wherein the first paragraph consists of lines 4 and 14 and the second paragraph begins with the sentence that starts on line 14. Replace sentence starting on line 14 -- and the sentence that ends on line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph.

-- My discovery distinguishes from the prior art in both physical properties and method of production. In the first aspect, carbon filaments produced according to the first embodiment of the invention are approximately 1 micron in mean diameter, "octopus"-like structure shown in Figure 4. The "octopus"-like structure consists of a loose, curved, elongated worm shaped, filament or yarn shaped, graphitic structure wherein a portion is hollow, tubular and longitudinally uniform (thus, they are one to two orders of magnitude thicker than conventionally produced carbon nanofibers). In the second aspect: they are produced in the presence of carbon-based materials (e.g., carbon black (CB) or activated charcoal (AC)), (in contrast to transition metal catalysts used in the prior art; carbon filaments are preferably produced by decomposition of hydrocarbons (e.g., methane, propane, gasoline) over carbon-based carbonaceous material (CM) by heating it to 850-1200°C, preferably, by passing electric current through it. --